

Message Text

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43

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 EUR-25 EA-11 IO-13 ISO-00 AGR-20 AID-20

CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-02 INR-10 NEA-10 NSAE-00

RSC-01 OPIC-12 TRSE-00 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01

SS-15 OIC-04 DRC-01 /184 W

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R 100805Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1640

INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY ROME

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PASS AGRICULTURE FOR HUME

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, AS

SUBJ: FAO WORLD FOOD MEETING

REF: A) STATE 177919 B) ROME 8939

1. GOA ATTITUDE TO BOERMA PROPOSAL SIMILAR TO THAT OF US. IT DOES NOT HOWEVER WISH TO BE NEGATIVE AND DESIRES TO BE RESPONSIVE TO REASONABLE PROPOSALS TO DISCUSS PROBLEMS WITH OTHER EXPORTERS. IN RESPONSE TO BOERMA INVITATION GOA HAS INSTRUCTED EMBASSY ROME TO SEEK ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND TO PROPOSAL, PARTICULARLY WHAT FAO HOPES TO

ACHIEVE, WHAT MOTIVATED BOERMA, AND EFFECT OF THIS MEETING ON OTHER SCHEDULED GRAIN AND FOOD CONFERENCES. UNDERSTAND AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY WASHINGTON HAS DISCUSSED SUBSTANCE OF ROME INSTRUCTIONS WITH

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STATE AND USDA.

2. PENDING A REPLY FROM ROME NO DEFINITE DECISION HAS BEEN TAKEN ON ACCEPTANCE. MATTER IS BEING DISCUSSED BY CABINET TODAY, BUT IT IS CERTAIN FPI MINISTER WRIEDT UNABLE TO ATTEND DUE OTHER COMMITMENTS.

NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT MINISTER PATTERSON NOW IN GENEVA FOR SUGAR TALKS AND COULD GO ON TO ROME, BUT THIS ONLY POSSIBILITY. ON PRESENT INDICATIONS DPI SECRETARY IVES MOST LOGICAL REPRESENTATIVE.

3. GOA AND WHEAT BOARD CONSCIOUS OF PROBLEMS OF MANY IMPORTING COUNTRIES, BUT BEFORE ANY RECOMMENDATIONS ON WHEAT ALLOCATIONS COULD BE MADE TO CABINET WISH TO BE CERTAIN PROPOSAL WELL CONSIDERED AND NOT IN CONFLICT WITH REVIEWS CCP MEETING AND RELATED FAO CONFERENCES. GOA ALSO FEARFUL ACCOUNTS OF PROPOSED MEETING MIGHT AGGRAVATE CONCERN ABOUT WORLD CEREAL SITUATION. GOA ALSO STRESSED THAT WHILE PROPOSED MEETING RESTRICTED TO EXPORTERS, WOULD HOPE IN DUE COURSE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT BEYOND ALLOCATION OF SUPPLIES AND SUGGEST IMPORTERS BE INVOLVED AND ASKED TO CONTRIBUTE IN MATTERS BEARING ON FOOD AID.

4. GOA WOULD BE INCLINED TO SUPPORT A MOVE BY US TO POSTPONE MEETING UNTIL AFTER FORTHCOMING FAO AND OECD MEETINGS HAVE BEEN HELD. SOME SUPPORT IN GOA FOR REDUCTION OF WHEAT USE FOR NON-HUMAN CONSUMPTION, AND AUSTRALIAN WHEAT BOARD TOOK DECISION TODAY TO BRING PRICE OF WHEAT FOR FEED AND INDUSTRIAL PURPOSES TO BE EFFECTIVE DURING THE 1973/74 (DECEMBER/NOVEMBER) MARKETING YEAR IN LINE WITH HUMAN CONSUMPTION PRICE. HUMAN CONSUMPTION PRICE LEVEL NOT YET DETERMINED BY LIKELY TO BE ABOUT 1.92 AUSTRALIAN DOLLARS PER BUSHEL.

5. NOEL HONAN, DIRECTOR BAE, SCHEDULED TO ATTEND CCP MEETING AND FAO INTERGOVERNMENTAL GROUP ON GRAINS, ROME OCTOBER 1-5 AND 8-19. DPI MINISTER WRIEDT AND ASST. SECRETARY LLOYD TO ATTEND GENERAL FAO CONFERENCE NOV. 10-20. EMBASSY WILL ADVISE FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS AND FINAL DECISION ON DELEGATE IF MEETING EVENTUATES. GREEN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 SEP 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973CANBER04985
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: CANBERRA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730946/aaaabhtg.tel
Line Count: 98
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A) STATE 177919 B) ROME 8939
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 OCT 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25-Oct-2001 by eisnerah>; APPROVED <06-Dec-2001 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FAO WORLD FOOD MEETING
TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, AS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005